



Friday, July 2, 2004

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Governor Doyle Announces Additional Federal Disaster Assistance

A Total of 43 Counties to Receive Federal Disaster Aid

Governor Jim Doyle announced today that the federal government has approved Wisconsin's request to add additional counties that sustained tornado, flooding, and storm damage to the current federal disaster declaration.

"Many families and communities across Wisconsin have suffered as a result of the tornadoes, record rain, flooding, and severe storms," Governor Doyle said. "This much needed disaster aid will ensure anyone who suffered damages will be able to apply for assistance."

Individuals and businesses located in Adams, Brown, Calumet, Chippewa, Clark, Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Dodge, Eau Claire, Fond du Lac, Grant, Green, Green Lake, Iowa, Jackson, Jefferson, Juneau, Kenosha, LaCrosse, Lafayette, Marathon, Marquette, Milwaukee, Monroe, Outagamie, Portage, Racine, Richland, Rock, Sauk, Shawano, Sheboygan, Taylor, Trempealeau, Vernon, Walworth, Washington, Waukesha, Waupaca, Waushara, Winnebago, and Wood Counties are eligible to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for disaster assistance. Individuals may be eligible for grants and low-interest loans.

Under the declaration, disaster relief is also available to local governments in Adams, Clark, Columbia, Crawford, Dodge, Fond du Lac, Grant, Green Lake, Jackson, Jefferson, Juneau, Kenosha, Marquette, Monroe, Ozaukee, Vernon, and Winnebago Counties. This will help reimburse communities for costs associated with the storm and flood damages.

Under the Public Assistance Program, local communities with eligible damage costs can receive grants that are funded 75 percent by FEMA and 12.5 percent by the State of Wisconsin, with the remaining costs paid by the applicant's. Local governments in the approved counties should contact their county emergency management director for further information on applying for this assistance.

Earlier this week, Governor Doyle requested the federal government add an additional 31 counties to the original declaration of 12 counties following last week's tornadoes and additional flooding. Because of the sporadic disaster damage, contiguous counties were also included in the federal request.

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Residents and business owners in the designated counties that sustained damage can begin applying for assistance by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or 1-800-462-7585 TTY for the hearing and speech impaired. The toll-free telephone numbers will operate from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday thru Saturday. The disaster application telephone line will be closed on Sunday, July 4, 2004.

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